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9 January, 1992

**SOCCER COACH JOHN MCGILLIVRAY TO RECEIVE NATIONAL MERIT AWARD**

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- Cedarville College head soccer coach John McGillivray has been selected to receive the National Merit Award as presented by the National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association. He will be given the award at the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Convention on Friday, January 17 in Pittsburgh.

NISOA recognizes one collegiate and one high school soccer coach nationwide for its National Merit Award. The association has been honoring coaches for their exemplary behavior on the sidelines for nearly two decades.

The annual award goes to the coach, male or female, who represents the best of character and behavior before, during, and after the game toward his/her own players, the opponents players and coaches, and the officials, and whose sportspersonlike manner is similarly reflected in the attitude and behavior of the players on their team.

Each state soccer officials association is allowed to nominate one candidate, and Walt Ersing, president of the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Officials Association (OCSOA), said McGillivray was an easy choice.

"Some people simply receive awards while a few deserve them," stated Ersing. "John deserves this national merit award.

"He fully represents the spirit and intent of the essence of this award. He is recognized by his players as a person who not only places high standards on their personal conduct during a game, but challenges them to live in a manner of the highest quality in all aspects of their life including physical, mental, social, and spiritual.

"He is recognized by those officials who handle matches in which his team is playing either home or away as a gentleman of gentlemen."

McGillivray has served as head soccer coach at Cedarville College for the past 18 years and has posted a career record of 175-138-16. He was presented the first-ever Distinguished Merit Award by the OCSOA in 1990.

He has taken the Yellow Jackets to four National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) national tournaments where Cedarville finished second in both 1981 and 1985. His first team, in 1974, qualified for the NAIA Nationals and the Jackets finished sixth.

McGillivray has led Cedarville to eight Mid-Ohio Conference titles (three outright), five NCCAA District III banners, three NAIA District 22 crowns, and one NAIA Area IV championship.

McGillivray has been honored by his peers as the NCCAA National Coach of the Year in 1981; NAIA District 22 Coach of the Year in 1974, 75, and 78; and the NAIA Area IV Coach of the Year in 1974.

McGillivray has been quite active in the NAIA. He is currently the District 22 soccer chairman and is a past president of the NAIA Soccer Coaches Association.

John is a 1970 graduate of Cedarville College and he earned his master's degree from the University of Dayton in 1976. He and his wife Bonnie reside in Cedarville and have five children.

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